

Message Text

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ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05
H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01
SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 IO-13 ACDA-12 EB-08 IGA-02
/114 W

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R 021114Z FEB 78
FM AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6442
INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY DJIBOUTI
AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE
AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO
AMEMBASSY NAIROBI
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

C O N F I D E N T I A L KHARTOUM 0428

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: OAU, PORG, SU
SUBJECT: SEC GEN OF OAU IN KHARTOUM

REF: KHARTOUM 409

1. SECRETARY GENERAL OF OAU WILLIAM ETEKI HAD LENGTHY MEETING WITH NIMEIRI AND FOREIGN MINISTER RASHID AL-TAHAR FEBRUARY 1, ACCORDING TO PRESS RELEASE FROM MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS. NIMEIRI BRIEFED ETEKI ON VARIOUS MEASURES TAKEN BY SUDAN AND ETHIOPIA TOWARDS NORMALIZATION OF RELATIONS AND INDICATED THESE EFFORTS WILL CONTINUE, BASED ON OAU MEDIATION COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS. ON SITUATION IN HORN OF AFRICA, NIMEIRI REAFFIRMED WILLINGNESS OF SUDAN TO "CONTINUE EFFORTS AND CONTRIBUTIONS FOR PEACEFUL AND POLITICAL SOLUTIONS TO CONFLICTS" THERE. ETEKI WAS INFORMED ABOUT PREPARATIONS IN KHARTOUM FOR OAU
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SUMMIT CONFERENCE TO BE HELD HERE ON JULY 18 AND HE VISITED CONFERENCE FACILITIES.

2. IN SEPARATE MEETING, ETEKI MET WITH FOREIGN MINISTER RASHID AL-TAHAR AND STATE MINISTER FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS FRANCIS DENG TO DISCUSS HORN OF AFRICA AND SUDAN-ETHIOPIA, SUDAN-CHAD AND SUDAN-LIBYA RELATIONS AS WELL AS SAHARA

PROBLEM, RHODESIA, AND "OTHER TOPICS." DENG SEIZED THE OPPORTUNITY TO MAKE STATEMENT PRAISING ETEKI FOR HIS ROLE IN SUCCESSFUL FREETOWN MEDIATION CONFERENCE. HE SAID ETEKI PLAYED IMPORTANT AND ACTIVE ROLE THROUGH OAU MEDIATION COMMITTEE FOR RESUMPTION OF SUDAN-ETHIOPIAN RELATIONS "AS WELL AS LAYING BASES FOR COOPERATION AND MUTUAL WORK BETWEEN TWO COUNTRIES FOR MAINTAINING SECURITY AND STABILITY IN AREA." DENG SAID HE BRIEFED ETEKI ON STATUS OF SUDAN-ETHIOPIAN FOLLOW-THROUGH ON OAU RECOMMENDATIONS AND ON FUTURE STEPS TO BE TAKEN.

3. COMMENT: IN IMPROMPTU SEPARATE CONVERSATIONS WITH AMBASSADOR AND DCM WEDNESDAY EVENING AT SOCIAL FUNCTION. ETEKI ADMITTED THAT HE WAS DISCUSSING WHOLE RANGE AFRICAN ISSUES HERE, BUT GAVE NO DETAILS. INTERESTINGLY, HE OBTAINED RETRACTION FROM ANTI-SOVIET STATEMENT ATTRIBUTED TO HIM IN AL-AYAM. (PARA 2 REFTEL). ASSUME SUDANGOV, WHICH GOING OUT OF ITS WAY TO GIVE ETEKI VIP TREATMENT AND FAVORABLE MEDIA COVERAGE, USING OPPORTUNITY TO EXPLAIN ITS VIEWS ON CURRENT ISSUES AT TOP OAU AGENDA.
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